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Montana Kaimin, 1898-present

Associated Students of the University of Montana
(ASUM)

2-10-2004

Montana Kaimin, February 10, 2004

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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Bill Pfeiffer, a MontPIRG intern, listens to state Rep. John Brueggeman during an ASUM and MontPIRG press conference on Monday in the UC. The groups announced the creation of the Montana Youth Vote Coalition, which was formed to increase turnout among younger voters.

Coalition to recruit young voters

Matt Pritchard
For the Kaimin

In an effort to increase voter turnout among University of Montana students and other young people, MontPIRG and ASUM announced yesterday the formation of the Montana Youth Vote Coalition.

"We're trying to get groups on campus or groups across the state to come together and teach people how to vote," said Bill Pfeiffer, an intern with the MontPIRG voter registration campaign.

The Montana Youth Vote Coalition is a nonpartisan organization was formed with the help of a \$2,000 grant from the Youth Vote Coalition, a national nonpartisan coalition, and the Tides Center, a national organization that supports social change.

The goal of the coalition is to

MontPIRG, ASUM hope to educate voters

recruit "different and diverse organizations," Pfeiffer said, to join the coalition and learn to promote increased voter turnout. The coalition wants at least five groups to join but hopes for as many as 30, he said.

"We'll attempt to create an education system between different organizations and this coalition," Pfeiffer said.

In the Montana 2000 election, voter turnout for people ages 18-24 was 26 percent less than the voter turnout rate of people ages 25 and older, according to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement.

Last November the UM student voter rate was 26.7 percent, said Matt Singer, student political action director for ASUM.

"(The rate) was pretty comparable to the city turnout of 27 percent," Singer said.

In Missoula's Ward 1 and Ward 2 the UM student voter rate even

exceeded that of the city voter turnout rate, according to results provided by Singer. He said 1,000 voters were registered in the weeks before the election.

Because of the successful student voter turnout, Singer said he has narrowed down why student voter turnout is usually so low: students aren't registered, they aren't informed about the issues or about the candidates and they don't know where and when to vote.

These will be the main issues the Montana Youth Vote Coalition will target when trying to increase voter turnout. The coalition will hold training workshops to teach its members how to effectively promote voting among young people.

Pfeiffer said he wants this to be a statewide effort with groups from other Montana universities getting involved.

But not all student organizations are sure they need to learn how to

See **FORUM**, Page 8

Property taxes increase in UM plan

Natalie Storey
Montana Kaimin

A levy to increase property taxes in Montana is one part of a plan administrators have crafted to deal with grim budget projections at the University of Montana in coming years, but the idea has already received criticism from key decision makers.

Doubling the six-mill property tax is one of seven initiatives in a budget plan that will be unveiled this week at open forums where administrators hope to receive feedback. The plan deals with projections for the University's budget from 2005 to 2010. A forum for the University community will be held Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the UC Theater. Another forum open to all Missoula residents will be held next week.

Vice President for Administration and Finance Bob Durringer said the property tax increase to 12 mills would raise about \$5.6 million for UM.

But the proposal has received criticism.

John Mercer, chairman of the Board of Regents, said he does not think the university system should ask for a property tax increase.

"I don't think we're in the business of seeking to raise taxes for Montanans," Mercer said. "It would certainly be something we're open to discuss. But I just don't think that's an appropriate initiative for the university system."

The idea would first have to be approved by the Board of Regents before the Legislature would have a chance to discuss it.

Lawmakers are also skeptical of the proposal.

Informational forums slotted for this week

Republican House Majority Leader Roy Brown said the university system should look at creating partnerships with private companies instead of asking the state to raise property taxes.

"I just don't think this is the solution to the problem," he said. "The solution to funding problems in all of education in Montana is economic growth."

Jon Tester, the Democratic Senate minority leader, said something needs to be done about the increasing cost of tuition, but he is not in favor of raising property taxes to solve the problem.

"We're putting an extremely large burden on our kids right now and we need to do something about that," he said. "But this is just the wrong approach."

Tester said he believes the tax base needs to be increased instead of raising property taxes, which he said adversely affects homeowners, the elderly, small-business owners and the like.

There is uneasiness among student leaders at UM, too, regarding the proposal.

Student leaders at UM say it's good for administrators to look into alternatives to fund raising, but they fear that a proposal to increase taxes is the wrong approach.

"I think we need to look at other ways," said ASUM President Aaron Flint. "I'm not saying I'm opposed to discussing this, but I think we need to look at every possible way we can to get more money for higher education."

He later said, "This might not be the best approach. The last message we want to send to the Legislature is double or nothing."

ASUM Political Action Director Matt Singer said he also had reservations about the proposal.

See **BUDGET**, Page 8

Beer distributor may help fund U-DASH service

Curtis Wackerle
Montana Kaimin

U-DASH and ASUM Transportation are hoping students' thirst will help quench U-DASH's funding woes.

ASUM Transportation, which manages U-DASH, may soon strike a deal with Earl's Distributing that could net U-DASH 25 cents for every case of a certain brand of beer the company sells to local bars. The type of beer that would be involved in the sponsorship has not yet been determined.

U-DASH is a free bus service for University of Montana students that shuttles revelers between the university area and downtown bars. The bus runs every 20 minutes between 9:30 p.m. and 2:30 a.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

Earl's Distributing vice president Jon Sherron said Earl's came up with the fund raising idea for U-DASH because they support responsible drinking and sober driving. Sherron said he hopes that bars served by U-DASH will match Earl's 25 cent donation, bringing the total to 50 cents for each

case sold of whatever beer sponsors the program.

"Our idea was to get everyone involved to get more money for U-DASH," said a beer, wine and beverage distributor in Missoula. "It's not meant to support alcohol."

The extra funding would be a welcome relief to ASUM Transportation director Nancy McKiddy.

"U-DASH right now is barely making it," she said.

The donations may go hand-in-hand with a marketing campaign that would encourage students to support U-DASH by drinking the type of beer that sponsors the program, McKiddy said.

Debate might arise because UM policy prohibits alcohol-related advertising. However, the policy also says the president can make an exception.

"This kind of debate would be good for the campus," said Mike Frost, chairman of the UM Drug and Alcohol Committee.

Sherron said Earl's plans on making the 25 cents per case donation with or without

the marketing campaign.

The university made the no alcohol-advertising policy in an effort to counteract what Frost calls the "culture" of drinking in Montana.

Frost said he estimates UM has lost tens of thousands of dollars that alcohol-related advertising would have brought in, particularly from sporting events.

"It was a bold leadership statement," Frost said. "The University took a stand and said, 'You know what, we're distancing ourselves from that culture.'"

McKiddy admits the deal has a long way to go.

"The deal is not yet finalized," she said. "There are still many details that need to be worked out."

Although students overwhelmingly approved a referendum last spring creating a mandatory \$2 per semester U-DASH fee, the program remains difficult to fund, McKiddy said.

The purchase of a much-needed bigger bus in the fall cost \$44,000, with funding coming from the ASUM Transportation

budget and private donations.

UM pays more than \$200 every night U-DASH runs for a professional bus driver and one assistant, who keeps an eye on the passengers.

Repairs, diesel fuel and advertising also weigh down the U-DASH budget.

The bus purchased last fall is a used transit bus that seats 27 people. Although it hasn't been an issue yet, McKiddy worries about future repairs.

"Who knows what repairs we're going to see," she said.

U-DASH generates revenue through the sale of advertisements that adorn the inside and outside of the bus. The advertisements cost \$200 a month for outside the bus and \$25 a month for inside the bus.

ASUM Sen. Kim Pappas, a member of the transportation committee, said the community has shown strong support for U-DASH through private donations.

"Funding (for U-DASH) is difficult," Pappas said, "but it's nothing we can't accomplish."

Gay marriage ban is unconstitutional

sanctity - n. The quality or condition of being considered sacred; inviolability.
sanctimony - n. Feigned piety or righteousness; hypocritical devoutness or high-mindedness.

Last Wednesday a four-justice majority of the Massachusetts Supreme Court took a brave stand on the issue of same-sex marriage, stating that legally recognized civil unions were not good enough, that same-sex couples deserve all of the benefits of marriage, and that "separate is seldom, if ever, equal."

If the court has its way, which it well should, gay marriages will be legally recognized in the state by May. However, opponents of gay marriage in Massachusetts are already pushing to amend the state's constitution, a move that, if successful, would not appear on a Massachusetts ballot until 2006.

If such an amendment were to pass, same-sex couples married within the once-legal window would undoubtedly be left in legal limbo. Other controversial legal questions will arise when same-sex couples get married in Massachusetts and then challenge the same-sex laws in their respective home states. Matters such as these will be decided in state and federal courtrooms, and will no doubt get very heated, very political, very confusing and cost taxpayers a great deal of money.

The issue of gay marriage is a polarizing one in this country, but it nevertheless needs to and will finally be addressed. Nationally, Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, R-Colo., and Sens. Wayne Allard, R-Colo., Sam Brownback, R-Kan. and Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., have already penned a proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution to ban gay marriages. But to amend the Constitution they would need a clear two-thirds majority of the votes in Congress followed by a ratification from three quarters of the states in the union, a truly unlikely scenario considering you can't get two-thirds of Congress to agree that the sky is blue.

Nevertheless, President George W. Bush stated his opinion on same-sex marriages in his State of the Union address in January: "If judges insist on forcing their arbitrary will upon the people, the only alternative left to the people would be the constitutional process. Our nation must defend the sanctity of marriage." The president will most likely keep this stance throughout the 2004 campaign — even press the issue in dubious fashion. But he will back off when it comes to actually supporting such a proposal, thereby not offending the crucial moderate swing voters.

Democratic front-runner John Kerry is no better. Though he hails from Massachusetts, Kerry supports same-sex civil unions, but not marriage. You get the sense that Kerry wants to let his true liberal feelings shine through, but realizes that it could cost him the election to do so. This is the problem with a two-party system of government. Politicians dive toward the middle, where voters choose candidates on the basis of their hair; meanwhile, critical issues are left to drown in a sea of the status quo.

In this country we are sending the gay community the message that while we may enjoy watching stereotypes on "Will & Grace" or "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," that they are ultimately second-class citizens, that they are morally evil, that they are punch lines and not people.

John Stuart Mill — whose writings provided some of the basis our forefathers used to build the Constitution — believed the majority should do everything in its power not to stifle and silence minority opinions, but to encourage them and help them to flourish. If we amend the Constitution, it will be the first time since the era of slavery that we will have authored a law specifically worded to discriminate against a particular group of people.

Last Wednesday a four-justice majority of the Massachusetts Supreme Court made Massachusetts the first state in the union where the sanctity of marriage will finally be recognized.

Under this brand of genuine sanctity, two people who love each other, regardless of what sex they happen to be, *will finally be able to legally marry*. When we do not provide equal protection under the law for all citizens — black or white, female or male, gay or straight — then we do not uphold sanctity, but rather promote sanctimony and oppression, discrimination and fear.

No matter how you may feel about the issue, be sure to voice your opinions. Often, it is our so-called leaders who need to be led by the hand.

Luke Johnson, Arts Editor

Versus Focus on Earth, Mars can wait

Column by



David Nolt

I went to Mars once when I was 18. It sucked and the air tasted like it was burnt. In 1998 I was randomly selected to be a witness on the first manned mission to the red planet. Upon my return the government wanted me to gush. I couldn't do it, and my identity and citizenship were effectively terminated.

David Nolt is not my real name. My real name was Clyde VanBuren, and I was born and raised in Turah, Mont. Operation "Enduring Fun" was conceived in the bowels of the Pentagon and landed on my doorstep on a cold winter night. On a warm summer's day, I left for Mars.

My partner Ely and I never knew each other before that day. We trained for separate missions. Mine was to study and report on the potential for tourism on Mars. Ely's mission was to undermine my mission should I fail to stay within Operation "Enduring Fun's" parameters.

I hate to burst anybody's bubble, but the whole bubble-wrapped rover landing is nothing new. To tell you the truth, it was the best part of the trip. It was most intense when the last pieces of the shuttle were seared to molten space dust as we broke through the atmosphere. I will not lie — it was scary. Then we hit land and bounced, and my stomach went straight to my mouth. Ely puked. It was awesome.

We circumnavigated Mars twice, at which point I told Ely that it was time to blow this proverbial Popsicle stand. Long story short: Ely pulled a laser on me and I stood at the shootin' end of it for the better part of an hour trying to talk him out of it. "Think of where you were born, Ely," I said. I remembered him saying how he liked to swim as we were small-talking before takeoff, so I said, "Ain't no swimming on Mars, Ely. At least not anymore."

He agreed, we hugged and high-tailed it back to Earth.

There was no welcome party waiting for us. We were picked up in the Atlantic Ocean by a submarine. They asked for my report. I didn't sugarcoat. "Mars sucks," I said. They gasped. "What do you mean?" they asked. I replied, "Look boys, there ain't nothin' for nobody up there. We'd be better off exploring the deep ocean. We've only explored 1

percent of that." I was promptly escorted back to my room and not spoken to until Florida. When we arrived I was ushered into a black car and driven away. I looked back and saw Ely thrown into the trunk of a car. I never saw him again.

Which brings us to today. No one has ever believed me. I was a tortured soul. I established myself as "David Nolt," got a job washing dishes and, slowly but surely, the desire to tell my story faded. Until today.

The American people have once again been "beckoned forth into the cosmos." This time we mean business. According to the Center for American Progress (a neoconservative think tank), "Somebody is going to dominate space...just like when the British dominated the naval part of our globe, established their empire, just like the United States has dominated the air superiority, ultimately, whoever is able to dominate space will be able to control the destiny of the entire Earth." Ah, the lure of the god of war. Halliburton is already in on the planning (true). I'm sure we can trust them.

I hate to alarm anyone, but we are at war(s), in debt up to our ears, people everywhere are starving and dying of disease, clean water is disappearing and global warming is threatening our very existence. Earth is awesome. Mars sucks.

But don't take my word for it. Log on to NASA's Web site and check out the interactive Mars photo at the bottom of the page. I can assure you, photos do Mars justice. Boring, boring, boring.

Don't get me wrong. I mean, it's fascinating and all. The nighttime sky fills me with wonder, too. But I have to tell you, Mars is way, way, way, way, way out there. Way out there, and it ain't going to be cheap getting there, what with the cost of rocket fuel these days and all.

I cannot tell you how beautiful the Earth was from space. Like heaven, I suppose. Maybe NASA should give every American one complimentary trip to space to see just where we're all living. I went swimming in the ocean on the first day of my new life on earth and it was spectacular.

Anyway, that's my story and I'm sticking to it. You no longer have to take my word for it. Little rovers are roving Mars for a good time, and they're not going to find it. Trust me. I'm sure they're lonely. We should bring them home.

David Nolt is a senior in photojournalism, a bleeding heart and a tree-hugger.

Versus is a weekly column that contrasts liberal and conservative viewpoints. It is written by Andrew Bissell and David Nolt.

The Kaimin accepts letters to the editor and guest columns.

Letters should be 300 words or less, and columns should be about 700 words. Please e-mail both to letters@kaimin.org, or drop them off in Journalism 107.

Et Tu, Stupid Poopie Pants?



MONTANA KAIMIN

Our 106th Year

The Montana Kaimin, in its 106th year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

Send letters to the editor to letters@kaimin.org or drop them off in Journalism 106

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KAIMIN is a Salish word for messages.

Weather *or not*

High: 32
Low: 20



You know what happens in TV weather? They take words like “forecast” and add lots of exciting adjectives. Then they arbitrarily add a number and usually make some reference to a team. Accu-Cast Storm Team Weather 2000 for example. You know why they do it? Because sometimes the weather is SO boring, people want to tune in just to hear the title of the weather forecast. This would be a good week to tune in for the catchy name. This week looks pretty boring. Boring skies and boring temperatures. Oh well.

Kaimin Weather - “Stay Tuned”

Accuracy *Watch*

The Montana Kaimin is committed to accuracy in its reports. If you think the Kaimin has committed an error of fact, please call 243-2394 or e-mail editor@kaimin.org and let us know. If we find a factual error was made, we will correct it on this page.

Wrong software

In an article in Friday’s Montana Kaimin, the maker of McAfee Virus Scan was incorrectly identified. The correct manufacturer is McAfee Security.

Do you wanna work for the Kaimin and eat junk food late into the night?
Then apply to be a copy editor or a designer!!!

We **NEED** you.
pick up applications in Journalism 205

Calendar *of Events*

Today, Feb. 10

Play - “A Streetcar Named Desire”
Montana Repertory Theatre — 7:30 p.m.
(Feb. 10-14) (Feb. 17-21)
Streetcar Named Desire. It’s official, all jokes we could about this play are stupid. We give up. Go see the play.

Dennison Open Hours
11:00-1:00 p.m.
President George Dennison open office. We hear he’ll sometimes pull a quarter out of your ear or even perform the deadly “severed thumb” illusion.

Breathing Lecture
Fitness and Recreation
Center Multipurpose Room 2
— 5:30 p.m.
Lecture - “Focus on Breathing for Fitness,” by Jane Edlun and quite frankly we can’t argue with her because breathing **really** is important.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

Secret ASUM Meeting
University Center 332-333 — 6:00 p.m.
Shhhhhh! Don’t tell anyone about this ASUM Senate meeting. We can have it all to ourselves!

Amelet Is Spelled With An “O”
Food Zoo — 11:00-1:30 p.m.
Omelet bar lunch - get ‘em while they’re still hot, tangy and embryonic.

Snowboarding Seminar
Fitness and Recreation Center — 6:00 p.m.
“Snowboard Maintenance,” seminar. For those who love snowboarding, or simply want to know about all those waxes and oils they use to slip down a mountain.

Thursday, Feb. 12

Valentine Art Fair Snooky-Wookums
UC Atrium — 10:00-6:00 p.m.
Valentine Art Fair Mrs. Wooky Pookey. Who’s my favorite Gooky Looby Wuvy Poo? It’s you! And it’s free, sweetums.

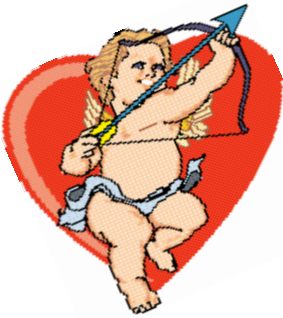
Delicious Blood Drive
UC 330-331 — 10:00-3:00 p.m.
American Red Cross delicious blood drive. Donate your delicious blood, so you may save someone’s life with said delicious blood.

Lay-de Griz Bas-ket-ball
Adams Center — 7:35
Lady Griz vs. Weber State. “Basketball is a usually indoor court game between two teams of usually five players each who score by tossing an inflated ball through a raised goal.” — Merriam-Webster Online.

Valentine’s Day Dinner
Food Zoo — 5:00-7:30
“Keep that blindfold on baby.”
“This is so romantic, where are we.”
“A romantic little place for Valentine’s Day.”
“Ooh?”
“Take off the blindfold baby.”
“I hate you.”

Items for the Calendar of Events may be submitted to editor@kaimin.org.
We do not guarantee the publication of all submitted items.

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Rachel Cavanaugh/Montana Kaimin

UM Productions concert coordinator Elizabeth Wilhelm holds two concert tickets, one valid and one duplicate, up to light to compare. Last week a UM student was charged with copying 10 fake tickets and faces a fine of up to \$500.

Student charged for forging concert tickets

Kristen Cates
Montana Kaimin

A University of Montana student was charged with one count of misdemeanor forgery after allegedly copying 10 fake tickets to the Victor Wooten concert held last week in the University Center.

Michael Kelleher, a freshman business major, faces a \$500 fine and could be ordered to pay \$215 in restitution, said Capt. Jim Lemcke, assistant director of Public Safety.

Kelleher could not be reached for comment.

Lemcke said UM Productions security noticed the counterfeit tickets at the concert, which was held Feb. 4 in the UC Ballroom.

"They're very good duplicates," Lemcke said.

Elizabeth Wilhelm, concert coordinator for UM Productions, said two of her more experienced security guards were able to confiscate five of the forged tickets.

"Our security people were phenomenal for this show," she said. "As soon as we see a fake ticket, everybody gets to see and examine it."

In the case of the fake tickets

allegedly produced by Kelleher, she said a security team of more than four people noticed the same serial number on each of the tickets that were copied.

They were then able to spot the original ticket that was held by Kelleher, Wilhelm said. Tickets for the concert cost \$21.50 and Kelleher's ticket was bought from the Box Office, she said.

Wilhelm said security is given a "crash course" in identifying fake tickets before concerts. They are taught to identify anything from holograms to varying colors in the copies. A good indicator of a fake ticket is that they are often thinner than real ones, she said.

UM Productions also had to deal with fake tickets last fall, when it intercepted about 15 fake tickets at the the Ween concert that was held Oct. 8.

"We're serious about fake tickets," Wilhelm said. "I hope if anything, people realize it's not a joke."

The next gig for UM Productions will be the Ludacris concert on Feb. 19, and there will be 10 to 15 security guards at the door of the Adams Center.

The University of Montana
And
Associated Students of the University of Montana

Present

An Open Forum with the University Community on:
Proposed Budget Initiatives for the FY-06 / 07 Biennium

Wednesday, February 11th
2:00 to 3:00 PM
UC Theater, Room 311

Please come to hear about and participate in a discussion of the budget proposals the University will bring to the Board of Regents. Your thoughts and suggestions are very welcome. For more information, please contact Paula Strong at 243-4662

Strong enough for a man

but

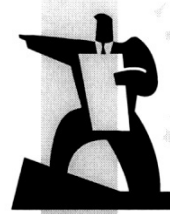
PH balanced with a woman in mind

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UC fair features safe sex game show

Jessica Wambach
Montana Kaimin

Captain Condom darted around the University Center atrium Monday afternoon, seeking unsuspecting students who wanted to show their knowledge of the safe way to do the mattress mambo in the Safer Sex Game Show.

One of his victims, freshman Kevin Bereta, happily jumped off the stage in pursuit of the prize he won for correctly answering a question about the birth control patch.

"I won an emergency condom key chain," Bereta said. "If you're getting busy or something, you've got a condom. People always carry their keys."

Bereta was one of many who battled other students and Captain

Condom to win prizes by correctly answering questions about safe-sex methods.

Bereta's excitement about the free key chain was exactly what Marcy Nagel, coordinator of Condom Access for Responsible Encounters, was hoping for when she and CARE volunteers organized the game show.

"I think it's a good purpose," Nagel said. "We identified the need that college students could have better access to condoms. Condoms are in the dorms and Greek houses and they're free."

CARE wasn't the only University of Montana organization that spread its message with 15 minutes of fame on the UC stage Monday. The safe-sex promotion group is one of 36 local organizations that are taking part in the CoCurricular Extravaganza

Monday and Tuesday in the UC.

The event, which takes place once each semester, is designed to give students a look at the many clubs and organizations in Missoula and on campus, said Marianne Blaue, annual and special events coordinator for the Campus Activities Board.

"It organizes all the clubs at once," Blaue said. "It creates more of a marketplace for people to come and see things they're interested in."

Organizations spanning from the Mortar Board Society to the Fencing Club are taking advantage of the free, two-day event to advertise their programs with informational booths and optional 15-minute demonstrations that have included lectures, skits and poetry readings.

Across the atrium from CARE,

Bob Giordano, a UM alumnus representing Free Cycles Missoula and the Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation, displayed photos and models to demonstrate alternative street designs. The two organizations think the designs would make Missoula's streets safer for drivers, bicyclers and pedestrians.

Giordano hoped to educate passers-by and maybe encourage some students to join the ranks of his organizations.

"We're trying to get students

plugged in to the public process," Giordano said.

CoCurricular Extravaganza booths will be open between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, and visitors can expect to see more demonstrations.

There won't, however, be a repeat performance by Captain Condom and his gang.

"I'm weird and overbearing," said Captain Condom, otherwise known as UM sophomore Justin Milliard. "But I have a very important mission. It needs to be done by somebody."

Car Accident Victims:

A new free report has recently been released that reveals information every car accident victim should have before they speak to anyone. Research shows that even a "fender bender" can cause pain, headaches, loss of energy, fatigue, irritability and even arthritis. Many car accident victims worry more about their car than they do their rights. If you have been involved in an auto accident, listen to the toll-free recorded message by calling:

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Eagles claw Griz, 6th straight loss

Peter Coyle
Montana Kaimin

The University of Montana men’s basketball team had its most important season win revenged on Saturday as Eastern Washington beat the Griz 71-52 at the Adams Center.

The Grizzlies, who have now lost their last six games in a row, gave the No. 1 Eastern Washington team (12-10, 8-1 Big Sky Conference) its only conference loss earlier in the season. The January victory over EWU had been a bright spot for the Grizzlies in a dismal season. It stood as proof that they can win against better teams.

But the Eagles put some serious doubts into that ability Saturday night. EWU out-performed the Grizzlies in every category, making 51 percent from the field, compared to the Grizzlies’ 38 percent.

The Griz came out fired up to play and took an early lead with a three-pointer by Corey Easley, and led 14-5 with 14:59 left to play in the first half. During an attempted lay up by EWU’s Josh Barnard, Griz forward Steve Horne leapt over the Eagle as he ducked down, faking the shot.

After UM’s short-lasting lead, Eastern Washington fought back, not allowing UM to embarrass them again. The Eagles made 26 points to the Grizzlies’ seven and were leading 31-21 by the half.

Penalties and sloppy passing hurt the Griz as they racked up five team fouls with 12:45 left to play and had the ball turned over 18 times.

The Eagles dominated the second half without much opposition from the Grizzlies. Forward Kamarr Davis gave some hope to the Griz when he intercepted a pass by EWU forward Alvin Snow, steamrolled an Eagles’ player and dished the ball to Horne for a quick dunk.

After Davis and Horne’s first-minute play, EWU returned by shooting 68 percent from the field and adding another 40 points to win the game.

With 1:05 left in the game, Grizzly fans had a last chance to cheer when Horne received a ball that flew over EWU’s Khary Nicholas. Horne sped all the way down the court for a one-handed slam dunk.

Horne led the Griz with 16 points and 3 rebounds, followed by Derrick Mansell, who finished with 11 points and 2 rebounds.

Head Coach Pat Kennedy watched Horne’s monster slam, but with 25 seconds left Horne was ejected from the game after receiving two technical fouls. Kennedy yelled at the referee as he followed in his footsteps all the way across the court before entering the men’s locker room.

The sixth straight loss dropped Montana to 5-16 overall and



Chandler Melton/Montana Kaimin
University of Montana forward Corey Easley attempts to block Eastern Washington guard Josh Barnard’s drive to the basket on Saturday night.

2-7 in the Big Sky Conference. They secured the last-place position in the Big Sky Conference and have lost 15 of their last 17 games.

Wayne Hogan, athletic director for UM, said although the season has been disappointing he feels Pat Kennedy is still putting his program together. He stood behind the coach and the beleaguered Grizzlies.

“There has never been a coach in the Big Sky with as many wins as Pat Kennedy,” Hogan said. “As low as this season is, I don’t sense any panic out there.”

Lady Griz fight back, squeeze by EWU

Jeff Windmueller
Montana Kaimin

The Lady Griz proved Saturday night that the key to a good offense is a strong defense.

Eastern Washington came out shooting, but the University of Montana women’s basketball team held on until they were able to make key shots that put them ahead to win 67-61 in Cheney, Wash.

“We fought, scratched, and clawed and I thought Eastern played really well,” Lady Griz head coach Robin Selvig said during a KLCY radio interview after the game. “This was a game where we had to hang in there.”

After shooting an average 55 percent in the two games prior, UM dropped to 35 percent making 21 of its 60 field goals. The low scoring percentage allowed a tough EWU team the opportunity to take the lead throughout the first half, ending 33-31.

“You don’t get to shoot the best every night,” Selvig said.

He said that after the first five minutes UM switched from zone to a man-to-man defense to better cover a fired-up Eagles team, which shot 48.1 percent in the first half. The Eagles (11-9, 4-3 Big Sky Conference) finished out the game at 40.7 percent.

“(The Eagles) were shooting their lights out,” said senior forward Julie Deming. “On defense, during the second half, we stepped it up and didn’t allow so many layups.”

Lady Griz ranked No. 1 in Big Sky

The Lady Griz also doubled the amount of EWU’s rebounds, 51-25.

After a disappointing first half, the Lady Griz came back with a four-point scoring run by junior center Crystal Baird to lead 39-37, but then the Eagles began sinking threes. The Eagles shot 6-12 from the three-point range in the second half and after a 16-4 run had their biggest lead at 53-43.

As quickly as the opponent raked in points, the Lady Griz returned. Within four minutes UM bounced back, and after a three-pointer by Baird the game was tied at 57 points with a little over five minutes left in the game.

After a Lady Griz free throw, the Eagles’ Stephanie Ulmer sank a three-pointer granting EWU its last lead of the game, 60-58 with 2:44 left.

From that point on, all eyes were on the leading scorer and Big Sky Conference player of the week, center Brooklynn Lorenzen.

“Brooklynn was unstoppable,” said sophomore guard Katie Edwards. “Everybody knew she would pull it off.”

The 5-foot-5 Lady Griz senior ended the Eagles’ chance to take a commanding lead when she stole the ball, moved it to EWU’s court and caught a glimpse of Edwards in the corner of her eye. With a quick dish, Edwards had the perfect pass allowing her for an open three-pointer that sent the Lady Griz ahead 61-60.

Junior guard Juliann Keller saved UM with a rebound off a missed EWU shot with about 1:30 left in the game and pushed the ball up to Lorenzen who streaked through the defense and over EWU’s Joanna Chad to lay up a 63-60

lead.

The Eagles attempted a game-tying three-point shot, but EWU’s Julie Paige let a bad shot fly with nearly 17 seconds still left on the clock. Keller pulled down the rebound once more and passed to Lorenzen.

EWU fouled Lorenzen twice more — the first with 15 seconds and the last with three. She made all four shots, ending any chance of EWU rallying for the win.

Lorenzen ended with a personal season-high 22 points, along with seven assists. Junior center Hollie Tyler ended with a double-double for the Lady Griz. Although she shot 3-13 from the field, Tyler sank all six of her free-throw shots to end the game with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Baird finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds in her 19 minutes of play.

Kathleen Nygaard led the Eagles with 14 points and 5 rebounds. Chadd and Ulmer tied for second with 11 points.

So far the Lady Griz lead the conference (18-4, 7-0 Big Sky Conference) and remain one of the most solidly defensive teams. In the 2002-2003 season, the Lady Griz led the conference in scoring defense with an average of 55.6 points allowed in the 14 league games. This year the team is averaging about 54.3 points per game.

“Every day (defense) is the main focus,” Baird said.

“If we’re not making good shots, but playing good defense, we’ll be with them,” Edwards said.

The Lady Griz have won their eighth game in a row, and Baird and Edwards agreed that it was the team’s emphasis on stopping shots that saved the last game.

Athletic fee raise wouldn’t go to new scholarships

Will Cleveland
Montana Kaimin

The University of Montana Athletic Department is seeking to increase the athletic fee students pay each semester, but the money won’t be used to create new scholarships for athletes, administrators say.

The proposed increase would be used to pay for the cost of inflation on scholarships that already exist. It would increase the current fee from \$30 to \$60 per semester.

National Collegiate Athletic Association bylaws regulate the amount of scholarships a school like UM can offer per sport.

UM is currently at or near all scholarship levels in every sport. But administrators said the money is still needed to cover the cost of current scholarships, since tuition has steadily increased over the past 10 years.

“The fee hasn’t been increased in 11 years,” said Bob Duringer, UM vice president of Administration and Finance.

UM Athletic Director Wayne Hogan agreed.

“I’m proud to say that it has been 12 years since I’ve nickled and dimed any students,” Hogan said. “And it’s reached a point where we need their support.”

Hogan later added, “There has been tremendous growth and unparalleled success in sports here and none of that has been accomplished on the backs of students.”

Instead, Hogan said other fees have been increased, such as membership dues for Grizzly booster clubs and season ticket prices at UM football games.

Regardless of the proposed fee increase, Hogan said none of the money will be used for new athletic scholarships.

In football, I-AA schools like UM may offer 63 full scholarships, all of which are being used.

Men’s basketball may offer 13 athletic scholarships, all of which are utilized.

Women’s basketball is in the same boat. They are able to offer 15 scholarships and 14.5 have been given out.

Women’s golf, volleyball, soccer and tennis are all sports that have either met their limit or are close to doing so.

Last year UM paid nearly \$1.4 million in scholarships for male athletes and \$960,000 for female athletes, but the proportion is within the compliance level for NCAA regulations and Title IX restrictions.

The Grizzly Scholarship Association, formerly known as the Grizzly Athletic Association, pays much of UM’s athletic scholarship money. The organization is a private nonprofit and does not have to disclose all its financial data, including how much it contributes to the pool of money that pays for athletes’ scholarships. The GSA did not return calls from the Kaimin.

Aaron Flint, ASUM president, said he is worried the proposed fee increase could become a fight that would pit students against students — something he hopes to avoid.

“This is the last thing we would like to have happen,” Flint said. “I don’t think that this is a good discussion to have.”

Flint later added, “I asked Duringer last week, ‘Even if we did give you one more dollar or \$15 more dollars, are we going to get one more dollar in a scholarship for the athletes?’ And the answer to that is they can’t, because they have maxed out their scholarships.”

ASUM, Duringer, and UM Athletic Director Wayne Hogan will be meeting some time in the near future to discuss the proposal, Flint said.

While ASUM and UM administrators will meet soon, Duringer said the money is greatly needed.

“It will help the athletic department to have greater purchasing power,” Duringer said.

Duringer cited the fact that 10 years ago season tickets to Grizzly football at Washington-Grizzly Stadium cost \$75 per season and that the same season pass now costs \$150.

“Things have changed,” Duringer said.

Before the fee can become official, it must be sent to a student referendum by ASUM. Students at UM would then have to approve the increase, followed by an approval by Montana Board of Regents.

Turning grass into cash



Rachel Cavanaugh/Montana Kaimin

Dan O'Neill, 21, poses Monday afternoon in front of the shed where his tools and equipment are stored. The full-time student runs a steadily expanding landscaping business, BelleCreeke Lawn and Landscape.

Will Cleveland
Montana Kaimin

When most people look at lawn mowers, they see a tiresome chore, but what University of Montana junior Dan O'Neill sees is opportunity.

The business administration major from Butte is a full-time student, and he also runs a full-time, landscaping business, BelleCreeke Lawn and Landscape, out of his apartment in the University District.

O'Neill has taken this childhood enterprise and turned it into a full-time obligation with a future.

"Anyone can be a fly-by-nighter, but not everyone can do it for a living," O'Neill said.

But BelleCreeke, which was originally a Butte-only business, is expanding and planting business roots in Missoula now.

To help deal with growth in Missoula, O'Neill is partnering with his uncle, Devin O'Neill, who lives in the area.

It all began five years ago when O'Neill's father, Dr. Dan O'Neill, needed some landscaping done in front of his dentistry office in Butte.

"It was kind of just some shoddy landscaping," O'Neill said.

O'Neill asked a friend, Dan Steele, if he wanted to give him a hand with the work.

Steele agreed.

"It took us about a month to do," O'Neill said. "And it probably should have only taken a week. People would drive by and say, 'Hey, we like what you are doing. Would you mind doing something for us?'"

"It ended up turning out pretty nice."

From their work and their

common first names, D and D Services was born.

"We started advertising in the (Montana) Standard," O'Neill said. "And people kept calling us, asking us to do other things. That's when I realized that this lawn-mowing thing might hold a future for me."

Things became official later that summer when Denise Harrington, a family friend, hired the two Dands to lay sod and install sprinklers in her yard.

"She knew that we had never done it before," O'Neill said. "But we said, 'Hey, give us a shot.'"

"Everything worked," O'Neill said. "She had a lawn, which she didn't have before, so everyone was happy."

D and D Services was flourishing, and O'Neill realized that if he wanted to make a career, he would have to become more professional, which meant buying equipment and advertising.

The two Dands filed with the state of Montana for an independent contractor's license, and a professional business was born.

But two years later, O'Neill started BelleCreeke because D and D Services had disbanded.

"We just had different interests," O'Neill said. "I never really decided to start my own business. Everything just kind of fell into place."

The divergence led O'Neill to the path he is on now.

With class every day from 8 a.m. until noon, and work in the bedroom-office in his apartment afterward, O'Neill rarely gets a spare moment to himself — which he is fine with.

"If I wasn't busy, what would I be doing?" he asked. "I would rather be busy than anything else. It keeps life interesting."

O'Neill's roommate and prospective employee Jonathan Jochim said he wonders how O'Neill keeps everything straight.

"He's always doing something," Jochim said. "I have a hard time keeping his schedule straight. I never know if he is coming or going, but he never has a problem with it. Dan is just one of those people who is able to accomplish so much with so little time. It amazes me."

From Butte's Perkins Family Restaurant & Bakery to high-end residential establishments in the area, clients recognize O'Neill's eye for landscaping.

BelleCreeke has now worked

for more than 200 clients in and around Butte, but O'Neill is far from satisfied, which isn't surprising to his new partner and uncle, Devin, his uncle.

"For as long as I have known Dan, he has wanted to be a businessman," he said. "He just has a passion for whatever he is doing, which is infectious."

The two have plans to watch BelleCreeke grow.

O'Neill said his business has four employees, but he wants to add seven to 10 more this summer.

With the future in mind, O'Neill and his uncle just got back from Evansville, Ind., where they spent the past week

training and learning about the new Scott's Lawn Care franchise they just purchased.

Scott's is the maker of lawn-care products such as Ortho and Miracle Gro.

By purchasing the Scott's franchise, the O'Neills get exclusive rights to the Scott's brand name in the state of Montana.

"It's just a good opportunity," O'Neill said.

With plans to help his company expand and to graduate in 2005, O'Neill is content, but not yet satisfied.

He wants to see his company grow into a statewide enterprise. "Why can't I?" he asked.

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Colorado county copes with gas development

Ben Kieckhefer
Associated Press Writer

RIFLE, Colo. (AP) - As natural gas development expands in the Rockies, affected residents in western Colorado will need a neutral site to discuss problems as they arise, a community activist said Monday during a regional forum in Garfield County.

Garfield County is home to the Roan Plateau, described as “ground zero” in the Bush administration’s plan to boost energy development stateside.

The county ranked second in Colorado in gas and oil development permits last year with 566, a number that is expected to grow this year amid one of the largest booms in natural gas exploration in western history.

Peggy Utesch of the Grand Valley Citizens Alliance said meetings like the Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas Forum on Monday do not provide a neutral ground for residents to discuss problems arising from natural gas development because they are tied to the oil and gas industry.

County commissioners should approve an advisory board that provides such an opportunity, Utesch said.

While many citizens who attended the forum agreed, at least one county commissioner said it is unnecessary.

“I think there is a format in place for concerned people to come and voice their opinion,” said Commissioner Larry McCown, who co-chaired the meeting.

McCown pointed to the attendance of about 150 people and the variety of issues raised during the forum as support for his point.

People raised such issues as environmental concerns, contracts between land owners and developers, and Bureau of Land Management policies.

The forum included citizens and representatives of the government and the oil and gas industry.

Forum

Continued from Page 1

teach people to get out and vote. Jacob Eaton, chairman of the Montana College Republicans, said he didn’t think his organization would join now because it already does its part in telling people the importance of voting.

Budget

Continued from Page 1

“We’re happy the administrators are already taking an aggressive stance,” Singer said. “It’s good we’re looking at alternatives, but I think this is one we need to discuss more thoroughly.”

Administrators are faced with balancing the university’s books in coming years in the midst of declining out-of-state student enrollment and declining state support, while fixed costs continue to rise.

“We try and emphasize that every vote does matter,” he said. He said the group teaches people about the issues, and because they are a Republican organization, they are looking for people to vote Republican.

Republican John Brueggeman, a state representative from Polson, said he likes the idea of the coalition.

“Young voters typically are one of the poorest at showing up for the polls,” he said.

He likes that the coalition is non-partisan and he hopes it will help young people become more aware of issues that affect them.

Now is the time for young voters to step up and get involved if they want to make a difference, he said.

to pay for an estimated increase in resident enrollment because resident students do not pay the full cost of their education.

Other initiatives of the plan include establishing an “enterprise” zone for the university system, where administrators do not have to follow state rules for investing money. This will allow more “entrepreneurial” activity, according to the plan.

The plan also contains an initiative to attract more out-of-state students as well as an initiative to promote economic development and job growth in Montana.

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